


INTELL. LIBRARY
LETCWORTH URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year
1925



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29729336>

LETCWORTH URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year
1925

Letchworth Urban District Council.

Chairman :
Dr. N. MACFADYEN.

Vice-Chairman :
Mr. R. H. PEARSALL, M.A.

Councillors :

Mr. C. F. BALL, J.P., C.C.	Mr. F. NOTT.
Mr. A. W. BRUNT, J.P.	Mrs. L. BRUNT.
Miss F. CARTWRIGHT, M.A.	Mr. E. E. RUSSELL.
Mr. W. G. FURMSTON.	Mr. W. G. SATCHELL.
Mr. W. H. GAUNT, O.B.E.	Mrs. M. STEEN.
Mr. E. A. HILL.	Mr. R. W. TABOR.
Mr. W. F. KENSETT, J.P.	

Clerk :
Mr. GEORGE BROWN.

Council Offices,
Broadway Chambers,
Letchworth.

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health :

BERTRAM SUGGIT, M.B., CH.B. (Leeds and Manchester),
D.P.H. (Camb.).

Sanitary Inspector :

GEORGE T. HILL, M.INST. M. and Cye., M.R.S.I.
Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

VINCENT C. G. CALLEN, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Cert. San. Sc. (Lond.).

Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.
Designated Officer under the Housing Acts.

Letchworth Urban District Council.

To The Chairman and Members of the

Letchworth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you the Seventh Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances and vital statistics of your district.

The Ministry of Health requires a survey report to be made every five years, and the Report for 1925 is the first of this series and includes the years 1921 to 1925. During these five years great progress has been made regarding housing, about 1,000 houses having been built, an increase of 50 per cent.; scavenging and refuse disposal has been improved; and inspection of foods, especially with regard to milk and meat, has been more stringent since the new regulations.

The building of the Letchworth Hospital in 1921, with all its modern equipment, and the establishment of a Massage and Orthopaedic Clinic in 1924 have been a great boon to the people. The number of district nurses was increased from one to two in 1922.

The construction of the new sewage works was started during 1924; and the building of a model abattoir was commenced at the very end of 1925.

Natural and Social Conditions.

The area of Letchworth, which includes the older portion of Norton, is 3,652 acres. It was constituted an Urban District in 1919. It is bounded on the north by Stotfold and Radwell, on the south by Great Wymondley, on the east by Baldock, and on the west by Ickleford and Walsworth. The subsoil of the district is mainly composed of chalk, while there are some deposits of boulder clay, and occasional areas of sand and gravel. The mean height above sea level is 300 feet, and the contour of the land generally is slightly undulating.

In 1921 (the census year) the population was 10,302. The Registrar-General's estimate to the middle of June, 1925, was 11,750, while our population estimate to the end of December, 1925, was 13,180.

Letchworth is provided with plenty of open spaces, including a recreation ground, playing fields and approximately seventy acres of Norton Common. Encircling the area there is also a wide

agricultural belt. Not more than twelve houses are built to the acre; and the district is so planned that as far as possible factories occupy a specified site, while the shopping area is situate in the centre of Letchworth. To the north of the town the Ivel stream passes through Radwell and skirts the limits of the chalk beds.

These beds dip to the south, and run under the London beds or "basins." Beyond the Ivel the gault and greensands lie beneath the chalk.

"Outcrop" springs occur at Norton Bury Farm.

The Pix Brook flows from south-east to north-west through the town and Norton Common, and receives most of the surface and storm water, which naturally increases in volume as the district develops.

The number of inhabited houses, as recorded by the 1921 census, was 2,332. In 1925 this total was increased to 3,295. In the census figures for 1921 the total number of families or separate occupiers was given as 2,497.

The rateable value of the district is £83,909, a penny rate producing £345.

A large number of the residents are employed in the factories, workshops, and other trading industries situate within the town. Some of the residents are engaged in work of an agricultural nature, while a big percentage are also engaged in London, and travel to and from the City daily. Several thousand workers in Letchworth reside in adjoining districts.

Vital Statistics (1925).

(1) **Births.** During the year there were 217 births (105 males and 112 females), of which 4 (2 males and 2 females) were illegitimate, and this gives a birth-rate per 1,000 of the population to 31st December last (13,180) of 16.4. Comparable birth-rates for the five years under survey are given in Table II.

(2) **Deaths.** There were 102 deaths (56 males and 46 females) during the past year, and I have given comparative rates for the past five years in Table II, and details of causes of deaths for 1925 in Table III. Taking the population at 13,180, the death-rate per 1,000 of the population for the past year (i.e., to 31st December) is 7.7.

(3) **Infantile Mortality.** Eleven infants under one year of age died during the past year from the following causes:—

- 3 (including twins)—premature birth.
- 2—bronchitis.
- 2—difficult labour.
- 1—convulsions.
- 1—infantile diarrhoea.
- 2—atelectosis.

The death-rate per 1,000 registered births was therefore 50.60.

In Table II is also given a comparison of infantile mortality rates for the past five years.

The amount of Poor Law Relief was £1,548 7s. 9d. for the year under review.

General Provision of Health Services.

There is no special hospital for the treatment of tuberculosis in the district, but beds are subsidised by the County Council for the treatment of non-pulmonary cases at the Letchworth Hospital.

There is no hospital for the special treatment of maternity cases, or of children.

The Isolation Hospital is under the joint control of the Hitchin Rural and Letchworth Urban Hospital Board. It is situate in Hitchin Road. In Table V I have given a list of the number of cases of infectious diseases removed to and treated at this Institution. The Hospital buildings are modern, and have accommodation for forty-two beds.

The Smallpox Hospital available for Letchworth is situate in the Parish of Langley on the main road from Hitchin to Welwyn. It is administered by the same Board which serves the Isolation Hospital, and has accommodation for twelve beds. It can be staffed and run at short notice.

The Letchworth Hospital provides twenty-seven beds for surgical and medical cases, and was opened on October 15th, 1921, by H.R.H. the Princess Beatrice. Previous to this Pixmore Hall Farm House was used as a temporary hospital.

There is no special institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children in the district.

Motor Ambulances are provided for the conveyance of (1) infectious disease cases to the Isolation Hospital, and (2) for use in cases of non-infection and accidents.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre was established in 1919, and is carried on at Howard Hall on Thursday afternoons under the auspices of the County Council. I am strongly of opinion more suitable accommodation should be provided in the near future. The Centre does much valuable work, and has lost none of its popularity. In October last a bi-monthly ante-natal clinic was started at the Hall, so that the expectant mothers no longer have to come in the afternoon, with the children and the nursing mothers. Details of the last year's work are as follows :—

Number of times the Centre was open	50
Number of children under 5 years on the register	379
Total number of attendances of these children	4,210
Average number of attendances of children each time the Centre was open	84
Number of deaths of children who attended during the year	3
Number of children who had orthopaedic treatment	6
Number of expectant mothers on the register	16
Number of consultations of these with the Centre's Medical Officer	22

Nursing Mothers.

Breast feeding percentage for infants up to six months old :

Entirely breast-fed	61
Partly breast-fed	19
Entirely bottle-fed	20

The Massage and Orthopaedic Clinic under the auspices of the British Red Cross Society is held in the Broadway Church Room on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 to 12.30 a.m. This Centre was opened in February, 1924. The following particulars are supplied me of the work done there during 1925 :—

Patients treated during the year :

Infants, 5 ; School Children, 20 ; Adults, 63

Treatments given during the year :

Infants, 48 ; School Children, 404 ; Adults, 1,292

Attendances at Orthopaedic inspection 145 |

Number of new cases seen 38 |

With regard to School Clinics, I regret plans for the establishment of a dental clinic have not matured, although this important matter was strongly supported by the County Council during the year under review.

Regarding tuberculosis. One of the tuberculosis officers attends at 123 Norton Way every Tuesday morning, and holds a Tuberculosis Dispensary. Some details of the work done there during 1925 are appended :—

Number of new cases examined	30
Number of patients attending the Dispensary	80
Total number of attendances	546
Number of times the Dispensary opened	52
Number of patients sent to institutions	22

Treatment of Venereal Diseases.

This is dealt with by the County Medical Officer of Health, Hertford. Particulars of the means of obtaining free skilled treatment by patients are advertised in the local Press, and in necessitous cases the costs of travelling are defrayed by the County Authority.

Treatment of School Children.

This branch of the health services continues to receive special attention. In Table I I have set out particulars of the work done during the whole five years' survey period.

Public Health Officers.

The present staff consists of a part-time Medical Officer, a full-time Sanitary Inspector (who is also Surveyor) and a full-time Assistant Sanitary Inspector. Salary contributions of the first two officers mentioned are made by Exchequer Grant.

Dr. Fiddian succeeded Dr. Macfadyen as Medical Officer of Health in 1923, and changes were made in the staff during 1925, when I succeeded Dr. Fiddian as Medical Officer of Health on November 1st, and Mr. V. C. G. Callen came on December 14th as Assistant Sanitary Inspector in place of Mr. G. McClelland.

The Health Visitor, Nurse Wells, is appointed by the County Authority.

Professional nursing in the home is carried out by Nurses Bamford and Fountain, who paid 7,136 visits to 308 patients during the year under review. These two nurses work under the District Nursing Committee of the Letchworth Hospital, which is supported by voluntary contributions. Occasional nursing for puerperal fever has been provided for by your Council and the County Authority, the cost being equally divided between the two.

The number of midwives practising in the area is three.

Legislation in Force.

The following adoptive Acts are in force in the District :—

- (1) Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, Sections 1—14 (inclusive) and 16—24 (inclusive).
- (2) Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. This was adopted on March 1st, 1923.
- (3) Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.
- (4) Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.

Part 2, Sections 15, 16, 18, 20, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, 32, 33.

Part 3, Sections 34—49 (inclusive) and Section 51.

Part 4, Sections 52—67 (inclusive).

Part 2, Sections 19, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 (adopted August 13th, 1923).

Part 3, Section 50 (adopted August 13th, 1923).

Part 5, Sections 69—75 (inclusive) (adopted August 13th, 1923).

Part 6, Sections 76 and 77 (adopted August 13th, 1923).

(5) The Lighting and Watching Act, 1833.

(6) The Burial Acts, 1852—1900.

(7) The Baths and Washhouses Acts, 1846—1899.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF LETCHWORTH.

Water.

The water of the District is a constant supply and is provided by the First Garden City Limited from their modern pumping station situate on the Baldock Road. From here the water is pumped from four bore holes to two covered reservoirs placed on the Weston Hills. These have a combined capacity of 750,000 gallons, and the supply gravitates from these to the town. The pumps have a capacity of 102,000 gallons per hour, and the quantity used in Letchworth per day is about 550,000 gallons. There is a machine at the pumping station capable of chlorinating the water automatically as it is pumped up to the reservoirs mentioned, thus eliminating the possibility of any spread of water-borne diseases. The water is a very pure one, from the chalk, and contains a fair amount of magnesium and calcium salts, which gives rise to some degree of temporary hardness. This, however, can be removed by boiling. Appended is a chemical analysis of the water supply; and in this connection I would remark the sample analysed was clear, colourless and odourless. Commenting upon the bacterial cleanliness of the water, the analyst reports it to be one of the purest in the county.

Chemical Analysis of Letchworth Water Supply.

Total Solids	10.2
Chlorine	1.2
Free Ammonia001
Albuminoid Ammonia001
Nitrates (as Nitrogen)80
Nitrites	absent
Oxygen consumed0032
Alkalinity	23.0
Temporary Hardness	19.7
Permanent Hardness (indissoluble matter)	3.7

Rainfall.

Records during the past fifteen years have been made by the First Garden City Limited, and their statement shows 1924 (30.315 inches) to have been the wettest period, and 1921 (11.38 inches) to rank as the driest year. The average fall for the fifteen years mentioned was 24.41 inches.

Rainfall for 1925 :—

January	2.21 inches
February	2.97 „
March	1.11 „
April	1.18 „
May	2.01 „
June	0.13 „
July	2.31 „
August	2.63 „
September	2.82 „
October	3.21 „
November	1.59 „
December	1.20 „

For the year	23.37 inches
--------------------	--------------

Drainage and Sewerage.

The whole area is well drained, practically all closet accommodation being on the conservancy system. Regular and systematic inspection of those few premises not yet connected up were made during the periods covered by this Report, and found reasonably clean.

The new trunk sewers and disposal site were nearly completed by the end of the year, and it is anticipated will be in working order early in 1926. The Norton sewage scheme was also commenced at the end of 1925, after plans submitted by the Surveyor had been presented to and passed by your Council.

Scavenging.

During the period under survey the whole of Letchworth's refuse was collected regularly each week by contract, and removed to the Council's Depot in old Icknield Way, where, after sorting, the tins are baled for commercial purposes by a baling press; the rags, paper and bottles sold, and the remaining refuse treated by pulverisation and reduced to a high-grade manure for sale to local agriculturists and others. During 1925 extensions to the depot buildings were put in hand and completed by the end of that year.

After experimental tests in new collection methods proving satisfactory the Council decided to collect the refuse by direct labour, and this scheme will be put into operation at the termination of the present contract on March 31st, 1926.

Sanitary Inspector of the Area.

In accordance with Article 19 (12) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1922, the Sanitary Inspector has supplied me with particulars under the following heads for the year 1925:—

- (1) Inspections.
- (2) Number of Preliminary and Statutory Notices served.
- (3) The results of such actions.
- (4) Complaints and Nuisances dealt with.

The first three items will be found tabulated under "Housing Statistics, 1925," and item (4) under "Other Sanitary conditions requiring notice."

Smoke Abatement.

This matter received the special attention of the Sanitary Inspectors. In two cases nuisances occurred, but after cautions issued they were abated. No legal procedure was found necessary.

Premises and Occupations Controlled by Bye Laws.

Under this heading the principal premises affected are dairies and cowsheds, but as these are specially reported upon under "Milk Supply" I would refer you to that section of my Report.

There are, at present, no scheduled offensive trades, or houses let in lodgings, in Letchworth.

Other Sanitary Conditions.

I would here make mention of the regular inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors of cinemas, dance halls, concert rooms and such like places of public resort. Visits were made at each during performances, etc., and at other times, and no nuisances were found to exist.

Under this heading I would also state the following complaints and nuisances received attention during 1925 :—

Number of visits made to premises	689
Nuisances found to exist	310
Informal notices issued	121
Nuisances abated after verbal and informal notices given ...	294
Nuisances in hand at end of the year	9
Nuisances outstanding to date	7

One statutory notice was issued, and complied with. No legal proceedings were instituted.

Factory and Workshops Acts.

The Sanitary Inspector supplies me with the following information for 1925 :—

Factory inspections	71	Number of notices served as a result	19
Workshop inspections	46	Ditto	—
Workplace inspections	9	Ditto	—
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total yearly inspections	126	Total notices served	19

These premises include factory and workshop laundries and bakehouses, but *not* outworkers' premises.

The following table details the defects found and actions taken :—

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts (including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts) :—

Want of cleanliness	3
Want of ventilation	2
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	1
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	3

These were all remedied after informal notices served.

There were no offences committed under Section 101 of the Factory Act (illegal occupation of underground bakehouse); nor Section 96—100 of the same Act (breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses).

Outworkers' Premises.

Two lists were received during 1925, and the houses inspected and found satisfactory.

(1) Millinery ; (2) Dressmaking.

Other Items Under the Factory Acts.

Four notifications were received from H.M. Factory Inspector and followed up. Two of these were complied with and two were in hand at the end of the year.

Registered Workshops.

Appended is a list of registered premises in the district :—

Pram Makers	1
Printers and Bookbinders	3
Asphalt Makers	1
Agricultural Implement Makers	1
Fly Paper Makers	1
Engineers' Tool Makers	2
Knitted Goods	1
File Makers	1
Organ Builders	1
Seed Merchants	2
Boot Repairers	3
Builders' Merchants	5
Builders	4
Upholsterers	2
Carpenters and Joiners	9
Press Maker	1
Dressmakers	1
Hardware Merchants	4
Cycle Repair Shops	4
Mineral Water Works	1
Garage Premises	3
Saddlers	3
Sign Writers	4
Tailors	4
Milliners	1
Hairdressers	3
Motor Trimmers	1
Pipe Joint Repairs	1
Watchmakers and Jewellers	2

70

Schools.

There are several public elementary and private schools in the area. The buildings are all planned on modern lines, with special reference to sanitary conditions, water supply, etc. Special precautions were taken at all times during the period under survey to check the spread of any infection.

Housing Statistics, 1925.

A special feature in the sanitary administration of Letchworth is the important one of housing. The district has specially catered for the public in this respect, with the result that houses and bungalows of an attractive style have been erected on a large scale throughout the area. The original idea of a "garden city" within easy reach of London and other large centres, and yet preserving rural characteristics, has been well maintained during the whole of this survey period. All dwellings have gardens attached, and the widespread cultivation of these, together with the use made by residents of the available allotments and small holdings, has enabled the district to preserve its beauty and utility to the fullest extent. These conditions have combined to maintain the continued satisfactory bill of health.

There are no unhealthy areas in Letchworth.

During the year 1925 no case of overcrowding was discovered during housing inspection work, or brought to notice.

Total number of houses erected during the year :

(1) By the Local Authority	18
(2) By Private Enterprise	104
	<hr/>
	122

Housing Inspection Work.

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts	236
Number of houses inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	60
Number of houses found to be totally unfit for human habitation	none
Number of houses found not to be in every respect reasonably fit for human habitation	271
Number of housing defects remedied by owners in consequence of informal action by the Designated Housing Officer	332
Number of Preliminary Notices served	29

Number of houses rendered fit for human habitation after
service of such notices 23

Number of Statutory Notices served (under the Public Health
Act, 1875) 1

No legal procedure either under the Public Health Act, 1875,
or the Housing Act, 1925, was found necessary, and no Closing
Orders were applied.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

This subject in all its phases is one of vital importance, and a large amount of inspection work of dairy premises and cowsheds has been carried out both during the past year and in former years. Constant supervision is exercised as to milking methods, and the means adopted as to handling and transport is also closely watched. In past years a clean milk campaign was inaugurated, and the co-operation of dairy farmers and milk traders enlisted to raise and maintain the present standard of the supply. All local dairymen are registered with the Council under the various Acts and Regulations in force, and purveyors from outside areas are also so treated. As a result of the special attention given to Letchworth's milk supply we have been enabled to ensure a fairly high grade of this commodity, but I feel a still further effort should be made with a view of so awakening the interests of producer, retailer and consumer alike that it will eventually be possible, and by the closest co-operation of these three such an end could be attained, to have on sale in this district a "pure milk." I think it would be desirable to here touch upon the "Certified" and "Graded" Milks now on sale in the town. At present there are three traders who sell this special class of milk here, and the extra care taken in bottling and distributing it should demonstrate to the public its superiority over what is termed "ordinary milk."

Ordinary milk, whilst, perhaps, possessing a low bacterial count (bacteria in milk indicating the presence of dirt), and being free from bacilli coli (bacilli coli meaning the milk is contaminated with dung) cannot be relied on to be free from tuberculosis germs.

In the "Certified" and "Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)" milks the requisitions of the Ministry of Health, who issue the Producer's Licence, are so stringent that tuberculosis germs are practically freed from this class of milk, and so the public is adequately protected, and for this reason the strongest support should be given to every seller of this high-grade class of milk. As I have stated, the closest scrutiny is constantly exercised over ordinary milk supplies, but the public should be correctly informed of the superiority of "certified" and "graded" milks over the "ordinary milk" supply. The consumption of the best quality milk, known as "certified," had by the end of last year increased three times since February, but so far all "graded" milks are not purchased by the public in anything like the quantity their high standard of purity, as demonstrated by frequent severe tests, merits.

At the commencement of 1925 new Regulations with respect to dairies, cowsheds and milkshops came into force, and were issued to each registered producer or retailer.

The milk-fat analysis results of samples taken will be found under Sale of Foods and Drugs heading.

No action was taken in 1925 regarding tuberculous milk or cattle.

In May of last year a Licence to sell Grade A (Tuberculin Tested) milk was granted to Messrs. Wallace Brothers, of Station Road, and in the following month a similar Licence was issued to Mr. T. B. Squire, of Leys Avenue. This grade of milk, in addition to the "certified" class, is now on sale in the town.

It was not found necessary to refuse or revoke any Licence or Registration during the past year.

To aid us in maintaining a good milk supply generally, samples were periodically taken from all traders' stocks. During 1925, 34 samples of "ordinary" and 10 of "certified" and "graded" milks were taken and submitted for chemical and bacteriological analysis. The results were as follows:—

In the case of the "ordinary" milks the average bacterial count per 1c.c. was 65,492 (the lowest being 12,366 per 1c.c. and the highest 209,000 per 1c.c.). Bacilli coli were found in 1/10 of a c.c. in 15 of the samples and in 1/100 of a c.c. in two of the total. In 17 of the samples bacilli coli were entirely absent.

In the "certified" and "graded" samples submitted the average bacterial count per 1c.c. was:—

- (1) "Certified," 6,174 (the lowest being 2,833 per 1c.c., and the highest 12,366 per 1c.c.).
- (2) "Graded," 41,246 (the lowest recording 1,420 per 1c.c. and the highest 138,800 per 1c.c.).

Meat.

This matter was given special attention during the past year, and regular and systematic inspections of meat are carried out in

all butchers' premises, hawkers' vans, etc. The 1924 Meat Regulations have been strictly enforced at all times.

We have no public or private slaughter-houses in Letchworth, all the traders receiving their supplies from adjoining districts. It was not found necessary to seize any meat during 1925.

On December 14th last the foundation stone of a new Model Abattoir was laid by the Duchess of Hamilton, and I hope to give some details of the work carried out at this slaughtering centre in next year's Report.

Other Foods.

There are at present four retail bakehouses in the town, which is also served by vendors from other districts, and regular visits of inspection have been made to each, when all premises were found to be kept in a clean and wholesome condition.

Inspections have also been carried out periodically at other premises where foodstuffs are prepared, stored or offered for sale for human consumption.

No cases of food poisoning were reported to me during 1925.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Under this heading I have to report fifteen samples of various foodstuffs were taken during 1925, and submitted for analysis. A part of this number was cow's milk, the object of analysing this being to ascertain the fat content.

The analyst reported all these samples to be genuine.

Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923.

Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923.

Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917.

No action was taken under these Regulations during the past year.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1921—1925 (inclusive).

Scarlet Fever.

This was very prevalent in the first months, and late summer and autumn, of 1921, the cause of the infection at the end of the year being traced to a local fair. The attack rate for 1921 was

6.9 per 1,000 population, which dropped to 6.1 in 1922 when the greatest number of cases occurred in the autumn, and a private school was involved. There were three return cases in 1922 and one in 1923.

Diphtheria.

This appears to have varied with the occurrence of scarlet fever, both in the number of cases and seasonal incidence. Patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and prompt use made of diphtheria antitoxin. A small outbreak occurred in 1923 in the infants' department of one of the elementary schools.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

Two cases occurred in 1921 and one in 1922. One case of polio encephalitis was notified in 1925.

Pneumonia.

This was exceptionally prevalent in the years 1921 (February and March) and 1922 (January, May and June), but no case was notified during the whole of 1925.

Malaria.

One case only in 1921 has been notified during the five years (1921—1925) under this survey.

Measles.

This gained a footing in May and June of 1922, and there were a few cases in April and May of 1923 in one of the elementary schools; but our worst epidemic was during the first two or three months of 1924, when one of the schools was closed for a fortnight and the epidemic successfully arrested.

Whooping Cough.

This was epidemic in April, 1922, August, 1923, and rife in the autumn of 1925.

Chicken Pox.

This was prevalent in January and February of 1923, and again rife in August, 1924.

Mumps.

An outbreak of mumps occurred in the Norton Village area in December, 1923, and continued into March, 1924.

Influenza.

This has been prevalent during the winter and spring of all the five years under review. In January, 1922, it was so widespread that all departments but one in the elementary schools were closed.

Pathological and bacteriological specimens are usually sent to a London laboratory for examination.

Regarding the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings, no special facilities are available within the Area.

After all reported cases of infectious diseases prompt inquiries are made into possible sources of the infection, and efficient disinfection of all rooms occupied by the patient, together with clothing and bedding used, are carried out. In this connection I would mention 44 rooms were disinfected during 1925.

The stoving of all infected articles is done in the disinfector at the Isolation Hospital.

The following cases of infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis, which, at the request of the Ministry of Health, are specially reported upon under that separate heading) were notified during 1925:—

TABLE V.

Disease.	Cases notified (in age periods).											
	At all ages	Under 1 yr.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65
Diphtheria	2*	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3†	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	15*	—	—	3	2	2	5	1	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles	9	—	1	2	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	28	—	1	2	—	7	15	1	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	61	1	2	7	2	10	24	2	5	5	2	1

* All removed to Isolation Hospital.

† One case removed to Hospital.

TABLE IV.

Notifications of infectious diseases (excepting tuberculosis) for the five years' survey period (1921—1925 inclusive).

Disease.	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Scarlet Fever	72	67	17	8	15
Pneumonia	27	21	5	17	—
Diphtheria	15	12	8	4	2
Measles	6	34	12	72	9
Puerperal Fever	1	4	—	2	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	1	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	3	1	3	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	—	—	—
Influenzal Pneumonia ...	—	—	5	—	—
Chicken Pox	—	—	3	20	28
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	1	—
Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	124	143	51	127	61

Tuberculosis.

Under this heading I have to report upon the 22 cases notified for the past year, 1925, as follows:

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
3—4 Years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
4—5 „ ...	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
5—10 „ ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 „ ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 „ ...	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—
20—35 „ ...	2	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45 „ ...	2	1	1	—	2	1	—	—
45—65 „ ...	2	—	—	—	3	—	1	—
TOTALS	7	9	4	2	6	2	1	—

Notifications of Tuberculosis for the five years' survey period (1921—1925 inclusive).

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Pulmonary Cases	19	13	13	8	16
Non-Pulmonary Cases ..	5	21	12	6	6
Totals	24	34	25	14	22

TABLE I

Summary of School Medical Inspection work for the whole survey period (1921—1925 inclusive).

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Children examined	508	579	623	499	679
Found unclean	36	31	46	39	25
Malnutrition	34	13	17	17	15
Defective teeth	156	139	162	105	141
Throat (tonsils and adenoids)	94	215	212	161	248
Defective eyesight	34	30	40	28	44
Unvaccinated children	243	295	344	291	371
Other defects noted ..	148	68	43	135	194

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics for the five years' survey period (1921—1925 inclusive).

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925 (1)	1925 (2)	1925 Eng. & Wales
Calculation of Population	10,210	11,500	12,000	12,692	13,180	11,750	—
Total Births	219	195	229	230	217	217	—
Illegitimate Births ...	8	7	9	12	4	4	—
Birth Rate	21.4	16.9	19.0	19.94	16.4	18.4	18.3
Total Deaths	77	97	87	95	102	102	—
Death Rate	7.5	8.4	7.25	8.2	7.7	8.6	12.2
Infantile Deaths	12	13	8	11	11	11	—
* Infantile Mortality Rate	54.8	66.0	34.93	47.8	50.6	50.6	75.0

* This rate is calculated per 1,000 registered births. The other rates are calculated per 1,000 of the population.

In column (1) of 1925 the population figure is our own estimate.

In column (2) of 1925 the population figure is that supplied by the Registrar-General.

TABLE III.
Causes of Death for the year 1925.

DISEASE.	At all ages.		Under 1 Year.		1 to 2 Years.		2 to 3 Years.		3 to 4 Years.		5 to 10 Years.		15 to 20 Years.		20 to 35 Years.		35 to 45 Years.		45 to 65 Years.		65 Years and Up-wards.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Whooping Cough ...	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Influenza ...	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	1	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis — Respiratory system ...	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	3	-	1	-	-
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Cancer—Malignant disease	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	5	4	-
Diabetes ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ...	3	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	-
Heart Disease ...	10	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	2	3	5	-
Arterio Sclerosis ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Bronchitis ...	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	-
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	4	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	3	1	1	-
Other respiratory diseases ...	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ...	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appendicitis ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	-
Congenital Debility, Malformation and Premature Birth	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from Violence	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other defined Diseases ...	8	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	5	4	-
Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS ..	56	46	1	8	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	4	2	6	5	20	11	24	16

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of your Council for the sympathetic support shown me, and also the Public Health Staff for their invaluable co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

BERTRAM SUGGIT,

Medical Officer of Health.

April, 1926.

